IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Confirmation No. 6150

Ingo GASSER Docket No. 2001-1252A

Serial No. 09/936,518 **Group Art Unit 3637**

Examiner H.V. Tran Filed November 15, 2001

Considerea! HVT 3/4/05
Do Not Enter! HVT 3/4/05 **PULL-OUT GUIDE FITTINGS**

In re application of

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED

TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT

ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In view of the following remarks, reconsideration of the rejections set forth in the Office Action of November 16, 2004 is respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected independent claim 18 and dependent claims 21-29 and 31-40 as being unpatentable over the Tamura reference (GB 2,245,158) in view of the Röck '726 reference (USP 4,445,726); and rejected claims 19, 20, and 30 as being unpatentable over the Tamura reference in view of the Röck '726 reference and further in view of the Migliori reference (EP 556,613). In other words, the Examiner has essentially maintained the prior art rejections previously set forth in the Office Action of March 12, 2004. In doing so, the Examiner asserted that a particular feature recited in independent claim 18, although not explicitly taught or even suggested in any of the applied references, was obvious in view of the combination of applied references. Because the Applicant strongly disagrees with the Examiner's position, the Examiner's prior art rejections are respectfully traversed for the reasons discussed below.

As noted previously in the remarks submitted August 11, 2004, independent claim 18 is directed to a guide fitting that comprises a damping device operable to dampen a relative motion